

## Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/SE:RCEWING/AD

APPROVED BY EUR:AAHARTMAN

EUR/SE:NCLEDSKY

S/S - PSBRIDGES

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

S E C R E T STATE 253733

EXDIS, FOR CHARGE FROM ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, GR, US

SUBJECT:PROBLEMS IN US-GREEK RELATIONS

1. I WOULD GREATLY APPRECIATE YOUR ARRANGING TO SEE MFA DIRECTOR GENERAL JOHN TZOUNIS AT AN EARLY DATE AND CONVEYING THE FOLLOWING POINTS ORALLY TO HIM ON SUBJECTS WHICH AROSE DURING OUR RECENT CONVERSATION IN NEW YORK.

2. PLEASE TELL JOHN THAT I ENJOYED OUR FRANK AND COMPREHENSIVE EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON THE AEGEAN, CYPRUS AND US-GREEK RELATIONS AND THAT I THINK DISCUSSIONS OF THIS KIND ARE EXTREMELY HELPFUL.

3. ASSURE TZOUNIS THAT I AM STILL CHECKING INTO THE AEGEAN EXPLORATION MATTER WHICH HE RAISED WITH ME, BUT TELL HIM THAT IT IS CLEAR FROM WHAT WE NOW KNOW THAT WHILE ONE OR MORE US COMPANIES ARE INTERESTED AND HAVE TALKED WITH THE TURKS RECENTLY, NO CONTRACTS HAVE BEEN SIGNED, AND THERE IS NO PROSPECT OF EARLY DRILLING OR OTHER EXPLORATORY ACTIVI-

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TIES IN THE DISPUTED AREAS OF THE AEGEAN.

4. ON ANOTHER MATTER, PLEASE EXPRESS TO TZOUNIS MY PERSONAL CONCERN ABOUT SEVERAL RECENT INSTANCES IN WHICH ERRONEOUS INFORMATION WHICH HAS THE POTENTIAL FOR POISONING RELATIONS

BETWEEN GREECE AND TURKEY, AND BETWEEN GREECE AND THE UNITED STATES, WAS INTRODUCED INTO THE PUBLIC DOMAIN BY US LEGISLATORS WITH GREEK CONTACTS AS THEIR APPARENT SOURCES. RECENT EXAMPLES INCLUDE NOT ONLY THE UNFOUNDED REPORTS ABOUT ALLEGED PERSHING MISSILE DEPLOYMENTS BY TURKEY, AND THE SUBSEQUENT RUMOR ABOUT LANCE MISSILES, BUT ALSO THE POSSIBLE TRANSFER OF F-4 AIRCRAFT FROM IRAN TO TURKEY. WE HAVE CHECKED OUT EACH OF THESE REPORTS, AND THEY ARE SIMPLY ALL FALSE. AS TZOUNIS WELL KNOWS, IT IS VIRTUALLY IMPOSSIBLE TO KNOCK DOWN ALL SUCH RUMORS, AND INVARIABLY, THE REBUTTALS NEVER QUITE CATCH UP WITH THE ORIGINAL STORIES. THUS THE FIRST CIRCULATION OF MISLEADING REPORTS OF THIS KIND CAN HAVE SERIOUS NEGATIVE CONSEQUENCES. I WANT TZOUNIS TO KNOW THAT I DO NOT HOLD THE GREEK GOVERNMENT RESPONSIBLE FOR ORIGINATING THESE REPORTS, BUT THAT ANYTHING IT CAN DO TO MAKE IT KNOWN ON THE HILL THAT THESE REPORTS ARE NOT ACCEPTED AS VALID BY THE CARAMANLIS REGIME, WILL REDOUND TO THE MUTUAL BENEFIT OF BOTH GREECE AND THE UNITED STATES.

KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** INSTRUCTIONS, FOREIGN RELATIONS, OFFSHORE DRILLING, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, ALLEGATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 13 OCT 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** coburnhl  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976STATE253733  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** RCEWING/AD  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760385-0329  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19761056/aaaabwem.tel  
**Line Count:** 87  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ORIGIN SS  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** coburnhl  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 03 MAY 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <03 MAY 2004 by buchant0>; APPROVED <17 AUG 2004 by coburnhl>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PROBLEMS IN US-GREEK RELATIONS  
**TAGS:** PFOR, GR, US, (TZOUNIS, JOHN)  
**To:** ATHENS  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006